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WASHINGTON Take 2 U.S.-Laos text: Commissions.

6. This limited operation is not an enlargement of the war. The territory involved has been the scene of combat since 1965. The principal new factor is that South Vietnam forces will move against the enemy on the ground to deny him the sanctuaries and disrupt the main artery of supplies which he has been able to use so effectively against American and South Vietnamese forces in the past.

7. The United States has consistently sought to end the conflict in Indochina through negotiations. President Nixon specifically proposed last October that there be a cease fire throughout Indochina, b a negotiated timetable for the withdrawal of all forces, c the immediate release of all prisoners of war, d an international peace conference for all of Indochina, and e a political settlement. This continues to be the policy of the United States.

8. The Royal Lao government has issued a statement, which, while critical of the current military action points out that the "primary responsibility for this development rests on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam which has violated international law and the 1962 Geneva Accords. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam has violated and is continuing to violate the neutrality and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Laos." The United States government continues to favor the neutrality of Laos and the restoration of the situation contemplated by the 1962 Geneva Accords in which all foreign forces would be withdrawn from Lao territory. A new Indochina conference as proposed by President Nixon could accomplish this goal.

End test.

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